

B. Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, lines 5-16 of the International application with the following amended paragraph:

In one aspect, the invention involves a penetrating peptide having at least one amino acid sequence selected from: (BX)₄Z(BX)₂ZXB (SEQ ID NO:38); ZBXB₂XBXB₂XBX₃BXB₂X₂B₂ (SEQ ID NO:39); ZBZX₂B₄XB₃ZXB₄Z₂B₂ (SEQ ID NO:40); ZB₉XBX₂B₂ZBXZBX₂ (SEQ ID NO:41); BZB₈XB₉X₂ZXB (SEQ ID NO:42); B₂ZXZB₅XB₂XB₂X₂BZXB₂ (SEQ ID NO:43); XB₉XBXB₆X₃B (SEQ ID NO:44); X₂B₃XB₄ZBXB₄XB_nXB (SEQ ID NO:45); XB₂XZBXZB₂ZBX₃BZXBX₃B (SEQ ID NO:46); BZXBXZX₂B₄XBX₂B₂XB₄X₂ (SEQ ID NO:47); BZXBXZX₂B₄XBX₂B₂XB₄ (SEQ ID NO:48); B₂XZ₂XB₄XBX₂B₅X₂B₂ (SEQ ID NO:49); B_qX_tZB_mX_qB₄XBX_nB_mZB₂X₂B₂ (SEQ ID NO:50); B₂ZX₃ZB_mX_qB₄XBX_nB_mZB₂X₂B₂ (SEQ ID NO:51); X₃ZB₆XBX₃BZB₂X₂B₂ (SEQ ID NO:52); and at least 12 contiguous amino acids of any of these amino acid sequences, where X is any amino acid; B is a hydrophobic amino acid; and Z is a charged amino acid; and where q is 0 or 1; m is 1 or 2; and n is 2 or 3; and where t is 1 or 2 or 3; and where the penetrating peptide is capable of translocating across a biological barrier.

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 7-15 of the International application with the following amended paragraph:

The relatedness of amino acid families may also be determined based on side chain interactions. Substituted amino acids may be fully conserved “strong” residues or fully conserved “weak” residues. The “strong” group of conserved amino acid residues may be any one of the following groups: STA, NREQK (SEQ ID NO:60), NHQK (SEQ ID NO:61), NDEQ (SEQ ID NO:62), QHRK (SEQ ID NO:63), MILV (SEQ ID NO:64), MILF (SEQ ID NO:65), HY, FYW, wherein the single letter amino acid codes are grouped by those amino acids that may be substituted for each other. Likewise, the “weak” group of conserved residues may be any one of the following: CSA, ATV, SAG, STNK (SEQ ID NO:66), STPA (SEQ ID NO:67), SGND (SEQ ID NO:68), SNDEQK (SEQ ID NO:69), NDEQHK (SEQ ID

NO:70), NEQHRK (SEQ ID NO:71), HFY, wherein the letters within each group represent the single letter amino acid code.

Please insert the Sequence Listing, pages 1-46, at the end of the Specification.